

House Resolution 364

By: Representatives Dreyer of the 59th, Jones of the 47th, Park of the 101st, Kelley of the 16th, Cannon of the 58th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Georgia State University men's basketball team on its championship season
2 and outstanding performance in the 2018 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Panthers earned the 2018 Sun Belt Conference Championship
5 after earning 24 wins in a record-setting regular season; and

6 WHEREAS, the Panthers won three consecutive games in the Sun Belt Conference
7 tournament as a No. 2-seed, defeating Troy, in-state rival Georgia Southern, and the
8 University of Texas-Arlington to claim the tournament title for a second time in four seasons;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, the Panthers advanced to a second NCAA Tournament in four years, playing
11 as a No. 15-seed in Nashville, Tennessee, and facing No. 2-seed Cincinnati in a
12 back-and-forth game that captivated the country; and

13 WHEREAS, despite playing well against one of the top teams in the country, the Panthers'
14 tournament run came to an end for 2018 with a final record of 24-11, tied for the fourth-most
15 wins in program history; and

16 WHEREAS, the championship team included seniors Jordan Session and Isaiah Williams,
17 along with Denis Alibegovic, Malik Benlevi, Matt Chism, Chris Clerkley, Nile Felton, Devin
18 Mitchell, D'Marcus Simonds, Jeff Thomas, Jordan Tyson, Kane Williams, and Damon
19 Wilson; and

20 WHEREAS, the incredible journey and performance of the team is the result of the
21 outstanding athletic ability, hard work, dedication, and unity of purpose and spirit of each
22 and every member of the team and coaching staff; and

23 WHEREAS, this championship team was led by Head Coach Ron Hunter along with
24 assistant coaches Ray McCallum, Claude Pardue, Sharman White, Jeff Diepenbrock, and
25 Nate Summers, athletic trainer Dinika Johnson, strength and conditioning coach Nate
26 Majnaric, and academic advisor Jessica Summey; and

27 WHEREAS, the entire Panther Nation is proud of this very special team of young men who
28 battled adversity, injury, and competition to stand as champions with a 24-11 record and who
29 have become great ambassadors of athletic excellence for Georgia State University and the
30 State of Georgia.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body commend the Georgia State University men's basketball team on
33 its championship season and outstanding performance.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
35 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
36 Georgia State University men's basketball team.